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The Council of Seventy.

The second annual meeting of the Council of Seventy was held at the University of Chicago, Friday afternoon and evening, January 14. The following members of the Council answered to the roll-call in person : Professors Bradley, Breasted, Burroughs, Burton, Crandall, S. I. Curtiss, Foster, Gates, W. R. Harper, Hayes, Mackenzie, Mathews, Price, Votaw, Zenos.

Judge Henry V. Freeman, a trustee of the Council, and several guests from the biblical departments of neighboring colleges were also present. The recorder reported fifty-three as the present membership of the Council. From those absent many letters of regret and messages of greeting and good wishes were read.

The president presented the report of the work of the Council for the year, giving items of interest concerning the work of individual members each in his own field, and in addition to regular professional teaching. As principal of the American Institute of Sacred Literature, the president also reported through statistics and comment the results of the work of that organization. It was stated that in the college field, aside from the thirty-six colleges enrolled in the prize examination contest, large use had been made of the Institute material for Bible class work in other institutions. The outline course had also been used extensively in the church, the home, the Young People's Society, and the mission field, proving itself universally adaptable. The membership in this department reached about four thousand. Mention was made of the introduction of the study in woman's clubs. Brief statements concerning the general prosperity of the work in the correspondence department and in the summer schools, of the courtesy of the religious press of the country, and of the plans for entering the home-study department in the Sunday school were made. The report closed with acknowledgments to the persons who had, by their contributions (amounting to \$2,200), aided the organization during the year.

The annual report of the treasurer was presented by Professor Shailer Mathews, acting treasurer. It showed a successful financial year. Owing to the gifts of generous friends, the expenses of the year had been paid, and the deficit of the previous year reduced.

At the separate sessions which followed, Professor E. T. Harper was elected master of the Old Testament chamber ; Dr. C. E. Crandall, scribe ; Professor C. F. Bradley, master of the New Testament chamber ;

Professor Shailer Mathews, scribe; President C. J. Little, master of the general chamber, and Professor G. B. Foster, scribe.

The following were elected to membership, provisional upon acceptance: Professors B. W. Bacon, of Yale University; M. D. Buell, of Boston University; E. P. Gould, Episcopal Divinity School, Philadelphia; W. H. Ryder, Andover Seminary; F. C. Porter, Yale; H. P. Smith, Amherst College; G. W. Gilmore, Bangor Theological Seminary; H. C. King, Oberlin; Kemper Fullerton, Lane Seminary; W. E. Griffis, Ithaca, N. Y.; Edmund Buckley, the University of Chicago.

Professor John Henry Barrows was elected president of the Council; Dr. C. W. Votaw, recorder, and Professor George H. Gilbert, treasurer. It is understood that President Harper retains the principalship of the Institute.

The committee appointed to investigate the teaching of the Bible in colleges made, through its chairman, Professor Gates, a most interesting and valuable report. The field had been well canvassed, and the report will be published at as early a date as possible. The statistics given, in the main, indicated that, while the Bible was very poorly taught, or entirely neglected, in a very large number of institutions, both the amount and quality of Bible teaching showed a most encouraging contrast with the conditions of a decade or more ago.

The committee which had been making a selection of books for the use of Bible students presented well-revised lists from the Old and the New Testament chambers. It was decided that, after further revision, these lists, each containing a popular section and a section for the benefit of those having a knowledge of the original tongues, should be published in uniform style, and that a further publication of the same lists, fully annotated, should follow in another year. A committee to perform the same service for the general chamber was appointed.

The last topic taken up by the Council was the question, "How can the Council, through the Institute, or otherwise, aid the Sunday school?"

Professor Ernest D. Burton spoke upon the urgent necessity for regular graded courses of study, and for trained teachers. Rev. W. F. McMillan, District Secretary of the Congregational Sunday School and Publishing Society, Chicago, at the request of the Council, presented the aims and methods of the Home-study Department, through which it was thought some assistance might be rendered.

The president of the Council was authorized to appoint a committee which should make a careful examination of all the material now published for study in the Sunday school; this committee to report at the next annual meeting. The Council adjourned at the close of the evening session. One of the pleasant social features of the occasion was the Council dinner partaken of in one of the University Halls.